



impact trips

2021

F.A.Q.s

General

1. Who should consider going on a trip?
 - Anyone who regularly attends The Shepherd's Church who has prayed about their involvement.
2. Can children participate on trips?
 - There are some trips with no minimum age requirements; but if the child is under age 13, he must be accompanied by a parent. See trip descriptions for details.
3. How should I choose a trip?
 - After reading the description of the trip, pray about your involvement. If you would like more information, contact ImpactTrips@shepherds.org.
4. Are there trips planned for specific age groups?
 - Each trip has different age requirements. Please see descriptions of each trip for more information.
5. Should I apply for multiple trips?
 - Only apply for the trips you plan to go on.
6. Does TSC have an ongoing relationship with these ministries?
 - Yes, The Shepherd's Church has an on-going partnership with workers/churches in every Impact Trip location.

Financial

1. How will I pay for the trip?
 - You may self-fund if you choose, but we encourage you to send out support-request letters so others who are not able to go on a trip can participate with their prayers and financial contributions.
2. What if I do not raise enough support?
 - Each participant will be required to sign a form that commits the participant to being responsible for the cost of the trip. Prayerfully consider your ability/willingness to raise support before committing to a trip.
3. Is there a discount for multiple family members?
 - Trip Directors endeavor to keep the costs of the trip as low as possible. Therefore, it is not possible to offer discounts for any participants.
4. What if I need to cancel?
 - Trip Directors incur costs such as non-refundable deposits and airfare throughout their trip-planning process. However, we know that unforeseen circumstances sometimes arise

that cause a participant to have to cancel. TSC will work with you to ensure that you are only responsible for covering the non-refundable costs for your trip. Your supporters will be refunded their donations.

5. What happens if The Shepherd's Church cancels the trip?
 - Supporters will be refunded their donations, and the participants will not be responsible for any costs.
6. What part of my expenses for my trip will be tax deductible?
 - All donations to your support-raising account are tax deductible for the donor. This includes donations made by you to your own account.
7. What is included in the trip cost?
 - Most trips include all meals, lodging, and transportation from departure to return. Check the details listed on the trip application for any exceptions.
 - Trip costs include a small fee to help cover the costs for the Trip Director.
8. What additional expenses will I incur?
 - In some cases, you will need vaccines to travel. Each participant is responsible for his/her own vaccine costs.
 - Personal purchases such as souvenirs are not included in the trip costs.
 - Snacks are not included in the trip costs.
9. Does TSC help us raise the funds for this trip?
 - The Shepherd's Church will provide the fund-raising procedure that will be used by donors to contribute to your account. The church does not contribute to the fund-raising accounts of participants.
 - Participants will receive weekly fund-raising updates from TSC.
 - The Shepherd's Church does cover the cost of 1 Trip Director per trip.

Health/Safety

1. What precautions are being taken regarding COVID19?
 - TSC Impact Trips will follow all local laws and guidelines.
 - TSC will cancel a trip if COVID will prevent the team from traveling and/or ministering.
2. What are the physical requirements for participation?
 - Each trip has different requirements. Please read the details of each trip for more information.
3. Are there any safety or health concerns for the trips?
 - While there are unique risks inherent in traveling, and no guarantee of safety or good health, the TSC leadership and Trip Directors strive to take proper precautions to ensure each participant's safety and well-being.
4. Are vaccines required for travel?
 - The Shepherd's Church continuously monitors all travel regulations, and will notify participants of any vaccines required for travel. See trip descriptions for details.
5. In case of emergency, what is the evacuation plan?
 - International trips include travel insurance that will allow for evacuation in the event of a natural disaster or political uprising.
 - All medical emergencies will be handled on a case-by-case basis, with communication between the Trip Director, the participant, the emergency contact, and the TSC leadership.

Application process

1. Will I automatically be on the team after I complete my application?
 - No. Your application begins the process of becoming a member of the team.
 - There is a minimum and maximum number of participants needed to form a team. The Trip Director will collect all applications then prayerfully begin the process of assembling the team.
2. What are the next steps after I fill out my application?
 - The Trip Director will contact you to ask and answer questions.
 - You will be given a copy of the final roster for the team.
 - If you want to accept your spot on the team, you will fill out the “Team Covenant Form” to indicate your commitment to the trip.
3. What if there is not a spot for me on the team?
 - Don’t be discouraged! Talk with the Trip Director about other trip opportunities.

Going

1. What paperwork is required for travel?
 - Beginning May 3, 2023, if you plan to use your state-issued ID or driver’s license to fly within the U.S., it must be REAL ID-compliant. REAL ID-compliant cards are marked with a star at the top of the card. Other forms of ID can be acceptable if they meet TSA requirements. For more information, visit <https://www.tsa.gov/travel/security-screening/identification>
 - All international travel will require a valid passport, with an expiration date at least 6-months after your return date.
 - Some international trips will require a VISA. Your Trip Director will advise you accordingly.
 - Some international trips will require proof of specific vaccines. Your Trip Director will advise you accordingly.
2. What training will I receive before, during, and after the trip?
 - Trip Directors each have a syllabus of 8-10 training meetings that will take place before departure. Participants will:
 - Get to know their teammates
 - Discuss what God is doing in their lives/ Pray with and for their teammates
 - Learn how to ask for prayer and financial support
 - Learn cultural/religious sensitivities for their trip location
 - Prepare for the tasks to be carried out on the trip
 - Grow in their knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith
3. What are the next steps if God is leading me to be sent out as a long-term global worker?
 - Continue to pray for assurance and guidance
 - Meet with the Pastor of Mobilization & Advancement to ask and answer questions

Questions?

Please direct any additional questions to ImpactTrips@shepherds.org.